

invention. Claim 1 has been amended to reflect the suggestions in the Examiner's comments.

The Examiner objects to claim 5 as it allegedly contains recitations that were unclear as to what the applicant was attempting to set forth. Claim 5 has been amended to reflect suggestions in the Examiner's comments.

The Examiner objects to claim 12 alleging that certain recitations are unclear. Claim 12 has been amended to reflect the suggestions in the Examiner's comments.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-14, 16-19 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16-19, 22 and 23 have been amended to reflect the suggestions in the Examiner's comments as detailed below.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to reflect that the retention ring is intended to rotate around the base, that the opening is located in the base, and that applicant is claiming a subcombination of a wheel retention device. The non-limiting element of rotational movement has been eliminated and antecedent basis has been established for a retention ring.

Applicant has amended claim 2 to clarify that applicant is referring to the wheel set forth in claim 1.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 12, 16 and 17 to substituting --intended-- for "adapted" to remove the alleged indefiniteness.

Applicant has amended claim 6 to clarify that the linear segments referred to later in the claim are the same linear segments set out earlier in the claim.

Applicant has amended claim 16 to render the claim definite by clarifying that applicant's use of "therein" is referring to the opening, that the central cavity has the opening, and that the opening is "to" the central cavity rather than "in" the central cavity.

Applicant has amended claim 17 to render the claim definite by clarifying that the retention member merely closes an opening to the cavity rather than "enclosing" the cavity itself.

Applicant has amended claim 18 to render the claim definite by clarifying that applicant is referring to the periphery of the base.

Applicant has amended claims 19 and 22 to render the claims definite by clarifying that the beveled surfaces do not "nest" into one another, but rather "matingly engage" with one another.

Applicant has amended claim 23 to render the claim definite by clarifying what the plural beveled portions on the securement member correspond to.

The Examiner further rejects claims 1-5, 7 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Arnold, claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Arnold as applied to claims 1-5, 7 and 21-23, and claims 8-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cole in view

of Arnold. Applicant wishes to rely on the attached affidavits under 37 C.F.R. § 131, thereby removing Arnold as a reference.

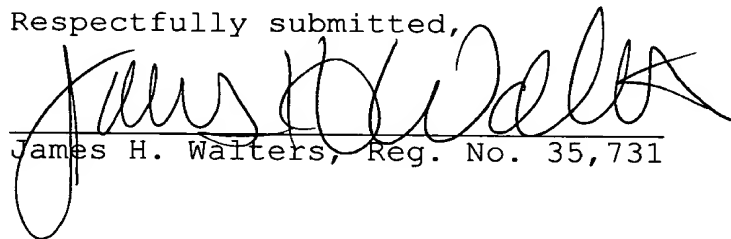
Since Arnold is not a reference, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of claims 1-5, 7 and 21-23 is believed removed as is the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 6.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 8-20 over Cole in view of Arnold is also overcome, since as noted by the Examiner, Cole fails to teach or suggest applicant's retention ring.

In light of the attached affidavit by the inventor and the two corroborative affidavits, claims 1-23 are believed in condition for allowance and notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

In light of the above noted amendments and remarks, this application is believed in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is urged to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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